

**Cordell Bank NMS Advisory Council Meeting**  
**January 26, 2005**  
*Minutes*

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**Meeting Commenced at 9:40 a.m.**

**All Present:**

Carol Keiper  
Doreen Moser  
Brian Mulvey  
Dan Cohen  
Bill McMillon  
Josh Churchman  
Rick Powers  
Joe Smith  
Tom Lambert  
Rowena Forest  
Dan Howard

**Review this Meeting's Agenda**

**Review 12/2/04 Meeting Minutes**

*Motion to Approve 12/2/04 SAC Meeting Minutes*  
*Tom Lambert motioned to approve*  
*Josh Churchman seconded*  
*All in Favor*

**Public Comment Period**

Anne Walton-

Reviewed draft of regulations for the Management Plan Review (MPR) and the timeline for the MPR. Meanwhile there will be a newsletter put out to update the public regarding the process and the next steps for the MPR. Public hearings will begin in July 2005.

Anne Walton introduced Yasaman Golban as the new assistant on the project. Ruth Howell will be leaving this week.

Gary Knoblock -

Manager of the Point Reyes National Seashore Association (PRNSA) gave an overview of the programs of PRNSA, and its relationship with Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary (CBNMS). Bill McMillon and Joe Smith commented on the successful partnerships of their outreach projects with PRNSA.

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Daniel Cohen –

Asked Dan Howard if there are years of biological data regarding CBNMS, is this guiding the management of the Sanctuary?

Dan Howard –

Dan covered the types of biological studies and data being collected:

Cordell Bank Ocean Monitoring – entering its second year.

Submersible surveys and habitat characterization – has three years of quantitative data.

Dan reviewed how information from these projects is used to guide Sanctuary management.

**Manager's Report**

- Dan Howard

Dan reviewed the Recent Leadership Team meeting (LT Meeting), which took place in San Francisco in early January. This included the announcement of permanent funding for a Research Coordinator for Cordell Bank NMS. Dan reviewed management and budgeting conducted at the meeting. Dan discussed the fishing community meeting in Half Moon Bay in conjunction with the LT meeting. The evening Ocean's Future Forum was reviewed. Dan noted the theatre was packed for the forum, and this indicated the high level of interest in the community for ocean concerns. Dan has a binder in his office with all the topics and presentations covered at the LT meeting for the Council to review.

Dan covered the status of Lynn Woolsey's Sanctuary Boundary Expansion bill. The Coastal Commission, and Sonoma and Marin County Supervisors support the bill. The bill may be attached as a rider to a larger ocean bill presented to Congress.

Dan updated the Council regarding the Advisory Council seat application status. Deadline for applications is 1/31/05.

Dan reviewed the status of Cordell Bank exhibits at the Bear Valley Visitor Center and the Oakland Museum, as well as the CA Academy of Sciences.

The director of the Bodega Marine Lab has expressed a desire to formalize the relationship with the Central CA Sanctuaries. This would entail partnerships with research and monitoring supported with a Memorandum of Understanding, (MOU). The group discussed buoy placement for oceanographic monitoring, as well as a satellite Sanctuary office.

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**Council Member Updates**

Tom Lambert reviewed the Forum of CA Ocean's Future, held at the Hearst Theatre in San Francisco. It was impressive that the venue was full. Moderator Michael Crasny directed a discussion with speakers John McCosker of the California Academy of Sciences, Dan Basta – Director of the Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, Michael Chrisman – CA State Resource Agency Director, and Kate Wing from Natural Resources Defense Council. The Honorable Leon Panetta gave the keynote speech and was also on the panel.

Doreen Moser commented about the Forum as well.

Rick Powers reviewed the research cruises he has facilitated from his boat, hosting researchers from UC Santa Cruz. These cruises were for collecting live rockfish spp to study spawning. Rick also commented on the large schools of Humboldt squid seen at Cordell Bank. Rick noted he suspects warmer water temperatures right now. Rick announced that he would be happy to take Council members on these research trips. Most members of the Council expressed interest in attending these trips.

Josh Churchman noted that right now the rockfish are spawning at Cordell Bank. Josh would like someone from NMFS or another scientist to meet him at the dock to look at the rockfish he is catching.

Dan Cohen discussed the biology of the Humboldt squid and how they follow the Pacific currents, and commented on unanswered questions regarding this species. Dan will ask his wife, who has studied squid on the east coast, about this species.

Brian Mulvey announced the new supervisor for the NOAA Restoration Center, Pat Rutten. Commercial fisherman are concerned about aquaculture activities. There is concern regarding White sea bass being brought into the SF Bay for farming and release. Dan Howard and Anne Walton discussed this controversial issue.

Carol Keiper announced she will be going to Santa Barbara to respond to an oil spill affecting sea birds. A Science Advisory Team panel has been developed to assist in developing a network of marine protected areas along the CA coast. This panel will hold its first meeting Friday Jan 7 in Oakland. Carol just got back from the Pacific Seabird Group meeting in Portland. Oikonos had a poster at this meeting regarding their Blackfoot Albatross study.

**Set March Retreat Date –**

The CB SAC retreat will be set for March 22 or April 19, 2005 at Cypress Grove Preserve. Rowena will let everyone know the selected day asap, once she hears back from Cypress Grove Preserve staff about availability.

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**Break 11:30-11:40**

**CB Case Study Presentation for the Annual Chairs-Coordinators Meeting, Feb 2005**  
- Carol Keiper

Carol gave her power point Case Study presentation regarding CBNMS projects, which are results of recommendations of the Management Plan Review working groups. Carol covered the natural and managerial history of CBNMS, as well as the projects and actions developed from the working group process.

Carol then opened the floor for comments, questions and clarifications of her presentation.

The group suggested slowing down her speech, slight editing suggestions were made, as well as clarification to the fishing gear slide (Josh Churchman and Rick Powers felt the slide should be clarified as benign impacts). Corrections were made to working group members' credentials/titles slide. Anne Walton pointed out all the volunteer hours and critical role the SAC played in the development of the working group recommendations.

**Update of the Annual SAC Chairs/Coordinators Meeting**  
- Rowena Forest

Rowena covered the dates and agenda, as well as Carol Keiper's role for the annual SAC Chairs/Coordinators meeting which will be held Feb 7-11, 2005 in San Francisco and Olema, CA. Cordell Bank NMS will be co-hosting this meeting with Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary.

**Lunch 12:35-1:15**

**Black-footed Albatross Study at Cordell Bank NMS**

- Michelle Hester, Oikonos

Michelle presented the Oikonos Black-footed Albatross (BFAL) tagging and tracking study, which takes place at Cordell Bank NMS and northern CA waters. The presentation included:

Population status

Knowledge gaps

Objectives

Future Analyses

Outreach and Education – satellite and tracking data into science and math curriculum.

What is known about distribution

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How Sanctuaries can help protect far-reaching animals

Capture for tagging

Tagging/radio placement

Methods – determining gender, scoring plumage classes

Data

Results

BFAL West Coast Distribution

Questions to be answered

North Pacific Albatross Working Group

**Discussion and Questions for Michelle**

Questions from the Council for Michelle included: why researchers on the project didn't go to Hawaii at breeding grounds to tag more easily. A: interested in the movement of post-breeding birds at Cordell Bank – not all albatross breeding in Hawaii go to CB.

Discussion with the group regarding the controversy of calling the BFAL in Japan a different species or not, ensued.

Josh commented that mandatory fishing vessel observers can be asked to save albatross carcasses for research re genetics and gender, etc. Discussion continued regarding the effects of black cod fishing on BFAL.

**Topics for next SAC Meeting/Retreat**

Planning meeting regarding what to accomplish for the upcoming year

Maybe Bob Schneider to present regarding history of CB

Carol will hi-light the annual Chairs/Coordinators meeting

Informational for incoming SAC members: review CB SAC Charter, bylaws, etc

***Motion to Adjourn***

*Carol Keiper motioned to adjourn the meeting.*

*Joe Smith seconded*

*All in favor*

**Meeting Adjourned 2:15 pm**